



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
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NEBRASKA JUNE 1 WHEAT PRODUCTION FORECAST LOWER

LINCOLN, Neb., June 9, 2006 -- Based on June 1 conditions, Nebraska's 2006 **winter wheat** crop is forecast at 56.1 million bushels, down 11 percent from a month ago and 18 percent from last year's crop, according to the Nebraska Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Average yield is forecast at 34 bushels per acre, down 4 bushels from last month and 5 bushels below last year and the ten-year average. However, this is above 2002's drought reduced yield of 33 and production of 50.2 million.

Acreage to be harvested for grain is estimated at 1.65 million acres, unchanged from last month but down 110,000 acres from last year.

Precipitation during April and May averaged two inches or less for many Panhandle and southwestern producers. This combined with dry conditions coming into the spring has resulted in nearly half the crop rated in poor or very poor condition. Director, Mark Harris noted that "Above average temperatures during the last half of May, coupled with limited precipitation, cut yield potential of the 2006 crop."

Access the National publication for this release at:
<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/field/pcp-bb/2006/crop0606.pdf>

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